

SEVERE LOCAL STORMS FOR FEBRUARY 1946

[The table herewith contains such data as has been received concerning severe local storms that occurred during the month. A revised list of tornadoes will appear in the United States Meteorological Yearbook]

Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks
South Dakota, eastern portion.	Feb. 1946 5-6			2		Blizzard	Drifts from 5 to over 7 feet high. Some communication and power lines broken; schools closed; many car accidents; some train and bus services canceled. On the 5th, in Huron, S. Dak., maximum wind velocity was 46 miles per hour from the north at 4:26 p. m., and extreme velocity was 52 miles per hour from the north at 10:21 p. m.
Minnesota, west-central and northwestern counties.	5-6				\$40,000	Glaze, sleet, snow, and wind.	With temperatures ranging from 28° to 32°, ice began to form about 5 a. m., of the 5th and remained on wires in some localities until the 13th. Ice on wires varied from 3/16 to 3/4 inch in diameter; heaviest ice formation was in the vicinity of Lake Park near the South Dakota border. Unusually heavy snow fell in west-central and northwestern counties, drifted badly, blocking highways and roads for several days or more. Between Morris and Appleton there were snow drifts as high as 18 feet. In the vicinity of Moorhead, Minn., and Fargo, N. Dak., blizzard conditions began about 12 noon of the 5th and continued until afternoon of the 6th. The storm in this vicinity was reported to have been one of the most severe of record. Western trains were stalled at Fargo for almost 3 days. Schools closed. Business was at standstill several days, resulting in large economic loss. Poles and wires were down, with communication and electric services disrupted from 1 to 48 hours. Some loss of livestock and damage to trees and shrubbery. Over the remainder of the State, the storm was less severe, although in the entire northern portion snow and high winds interfered to some extent with traffic and communication services. Some damage to overhead wire systems in southeastern Minnesota, where thunderstorms occurred on the 5th and were followed by moderately heavy snows and gales on the 6th. In the Minneapolis-St. Paul area light glaze caused many accidents to pedestrians and motorists.
Rockville, Ind.	6				1,000	Wind	Garage damaged.
Lake Murray, S. C.	10				500	High wind	Boathouses and boats damaged or wrecked.
Arcola and Hollandale, La.	13	P. m.			7,500	Windstorms	Damage to buildings and property; 1 person injured.
Ardmore, Okla.	13	3 a. m.		1	1,000,000	Tornado	15 persons injured. Estimates of damage from \$500,000 to \$1,500,000. 200 persons homeless; 50 homes demolished; 48 more damaged so badly they were untenable. About 1,500 houses damaged to some extent and 200 other buildings destroyed or damaged. Length of path not known.
Indiana, general over the State.	13-14				5,000	Wind	Scattered, minor damage to buildings; some trees and wires down.
Oklahoma City, Okla., vicinity of.	18	3 p. m.		0		Small tornado	Minor damage to a home in outskirts of city; no injuries reported.
San Antonio, Tex.	18	4-5 p. m.			15,000	Wind	Parked planes overturned and damaged.
New Orleans, La., and vicinity.	23	4:30 p. m.				Wind and hail	Considerable damage to buildings, fences, and trees; amount not estimated.
Charleston, S. C.	24			5	102,000	High wind	A 240-foot section of Cooper River Bridge carried away when high wind caused the freighter, <i>Nicaragua Victory</i> , to drag anchor and ram the bridge. 5 members of Lawson family killed as their automobile plunged through gap in bridge. Estimated damage to bridge, \$100,000; additional property loss in Charleston about \$2,000.
Tampa, Fla.	27	Early afternoon.		0	3,000	Tornado	Freak tornado; only one home in neighborhood damaged.
Lakeland, Fla., 4 1/2 miles south-east.	27	3 p. m.	100	0	4,000	do.	House demolished; another damaged; several small barns and sheds demolished or greatly damaged; path about 880 yards long.

LATE STORM REPORTS FOR JANUARY 1946

[Reports not included in the Review of that month]

Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks
Decatur, Tex.	Jan. 1946 4	2 p. m.	300	0		Tornado	8 persons injured; 2 farm homes destroyed; other minor damage; loss not estimated.
Lufkin, Tex.	4	8:30 p. m.	880	3	500,000	do.	50 persons injured; 48 homes destroyed, 100 damaged, and 225 other buildings destroyed or damaged. 225 families affected.
Nacogdoches, Tex.	4	8:30-9:30 p. m.	880	10	1,500,000	do.	200 persons injured; 80 homes destroyed; 150 homes damaged; 300 other buildings damaged or destroyed; 300 families affected.
Palestine, Tex.	4	9 p. m.	440	15	500,000	do.	60 persons injured; 36 homes destroyed; 22 homes damaged; 100 other buildings destroyed or damaged; 175 families affected.
Peniel, Tex.	4	do.	200		50,000	do.	17 persons injured; 11 houses destroyed and 8 damaged; 102 other buildings destroyed or damaged; 28 families affected.
Shiloh, Tex.	4	do.		2	100,000	do.	9 homes destroyed; other property damaged.
Port Arthur, Tex.	5	12:10-12:30 a. m.			25,000	Straight-line wind	Property damaged.
Waynesboro, Miss., vicinity of.	5			0	500	Tornado	Damage confined mostly to roofs and trees.
Carrollton, Colla, Sunflower, Seven Pines, and Indianola, Miss.	6	6 p. m.		12	247,000	Tornadoes	Loss in crops, \$60,000; property damage, \$187,000; 40 persons injured, some seriously.
Port Arthur, Tex.	8	8 a. m.		0	10,000	do.	Several homes and small buildings damaged.